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MONDAY, APRIL 2, 1951.

Today's Weather: Light variable winds. Fair and warm.
Wing gale force blowing from the south.

MAIL

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More Will
Vote Tory
Next Time

Public Opinion Poll

London, Apr. 1. An increasing number of Britons think that the Conservatives will win the next election, according to the *Daily Express*' poll of public opinion to be published tomorrow.

Fifty per cent of the people questioned on the subject last month said that they would vote Conservative—an increase of six and a half per cent since October, 1950.

Only 39 per cent said that they would vote Labour, against 45 and a half per cent in October, 1950.

Eight per cent said that they would vote Liberal.

The poll is described by the *Express* as reflecting the opinions of a complete cross-section of the community.—Reuter.

GOVT'S INTENTION

Blackhall, Durham, Apr. 1. The Defence Minister, Mr. Emmanuel Shinwell, said today that the Government would stay in office until it was defeated on a vote of censure in Parliament.

The only exception to that was if the Government considered the situation for a general election favourable from its own and the country's interests.

Then the Government would precipitate an election itself. It did not need the assistance of Mr. Winston Churchill or the Opposition.

Mr. Shinwell was commenting on Mr. Churchill's recent statement that the Opposition would do its utmost to force an election.—Reuter.

Thinks Term Is
Objectionable

Melbourne, Apr. 1. Albert F. Monk, president of the powerful Australian Council of Trade Unions, believes the term "White Australia" should be dropped from the nation's vocabulary.

He endorsed the similar view of Prof. Sir Douglas Copland, one-time Australian Minister to China.

Mr. Monk unsuccessfully tried at the recent 1950 Easter conference of the Australian Labour Party to have the term changed to "restricted immigration."—United Press.

Strike Still
On

Paris, Apr. 1. M. Antoine Pinay, the French Transport Minister, and an all-union Strike Committee failed tonight to reach a settlement of the 17-day-old Paris transport strike after a five-hour meeting here.

The strikers maintained their demand that they should be paid for the days during which they have been out. The Government suggested that pay cut for the strike period should be deducted over five months.

The Strike Committee will meet tomorrow morning to consider the Government's stand.

About 100 of the usual 450 underground trains were running today, but there were only about 15 buses on the road.—Reuter.

Vietminh
Forces
Repulsed

Hanoi, Apr. 1. French Union forces have successfully driven off Vietminh attacks in the Tonking delta of Indo-China and inflicted heavy losses on the attackers, a French Army communiqué said today.

The Vietminh offensive in Tonking reached a climax on Friday and early yesterday in battle below the Ongtruc mountains in a rich coal mining district 45 miles north-east of Hanoi, Tonking's capital, the communiqué said.

French sources last night thought that yesterday's assault was the beginning of the long expected Vietminh offensive against the Tonking delta rice-bowl.

Despite their numerical inferiority the French Union forces offered stubborn resistance to innumerable attacks which the Vietminh forces kept up day and night, the communiqué said.

There was little other activity on the fighting front during the day.

United Nations forces were in virtually the same positions along the parallel they had abandoned just three months ago.

In one case, South Korean

infantry crouched in the same foxholes south of the Imjin River they had occupied when the Chinese and North Korean Reds launched a massive New Year's offensive.

The low hanging clouds provided a break for the Chinese Communist forces in their massing of up to 300,000 troops and fresh supplies for an expected new smash south of the old political boundary.

Fifth Air Force night raiders spotted 700 enemy vehicles on the roads north of Seoul before midnight on Saturday. This brought the number of Red

vehicles sighted since Wednesday to more than 6,300.

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Japanese Peace Treaty

It is not surprising the Japanese are delighted with Mr. Foster Dulles' proposed peace treaty. It is generous almost to a fault, going practically the whole way in meeting the expressed desires of Japan's new political leaders. Tokyo will willingly give signature to it. Neither is it likely the general terms of the suggested treaty will encounter serious opposition from the rest of the war-time allies, except, of course, Russia, who will, purely for propaganda purposes, condemn the proposals, but there may be some dissension over certain clauses. Britain, for example, foresees a dangerous resurgence of Japanese commerce and industry, based on cheap labour, which would threaten Britain's textile industry and its merchant shipping. Mr. Dulles apparently has no great sympathy for the British viewpoint. Yet London's fears are not groundless. British industrialists and manufacturers cannot readily forget the manner in which Japan undersold them in the world markets before the war, largely in consequence of virtual slave labour, and Britain, least of all the allied nations, can afford to be confronted with unfair competition at this critical phase of her economic history. The British government, therefore, has reason to feel apprehensive about peace treaty conditions which may quickly provide the Japanese with unfair advantages in commerce and industry. Mr. Dulles is right and proper in insisting that Japan must be encouraged to stand on her own feet and herself to restore the nation's economic equilibrium. She cannot indefinitely go on looking for American money to maintain the country. Nevertheless, to give Japan complete freedom to capture world markets by under-selling on cheap labour would have disastrous repercussions elsewhere and would be intolerable. Britain's re-

UN TANK PATROLS LAY A BARRAGE
Heavy Fire Hurled Across Parallel

Royal Maundy Service



The King and Queen, with Princess Margaret, attended the distribution of Royal Maundy money at Westminster Abbey on March 22. It was the King's first public engagement since his recent chill. Photo shows the King and Queen and Princess Margaret, holding traditional posies as they pass the lines of King's Scholars of Westminster School. Canon Don Dean of Westminster is with them.

East-West Agreement Prospects Brighter

Paris, Apr. 1. Prospects of a preliminary East-West agreement were brighter today than at any time since the Big Four deputies began work four weeks ago on the agenda for a full cold-war conference of the Foreign Ministers.

Western diplomats still saw little hope of a Big Four conference bringing settlement of the cold war in Europe but after weeks of bogdown, double talk and arguing in circles, the Big Four deputies appeared headed for agreement at least on the agenda that will make a Foreign Ministers' conference possible.

The break came at a secret meeting of the four deputies and one assistant each at a luncheon given yesterday by the US delegation head, Dr. Philip Jessup. Both sides agreed to quit time-wasting arguments over side issues and to concentrate on reaching agreement on a streamlined agenda.

Both sides had dragged in what were described as "red herring" items in their agenda proposals merely for bargaining purposes and these they agreed to scrap.

The Soviet deputy, Mr. Andrei Gromyko, agreed to drop his demands for discussion of the Atlantic Pact, alleged American military bases in Europe and the Middle East, alleged breaches by the West of the Italian peace treaty, and denazification and war criminals in Germany and Austria. In return the Western deputies agreed to drop their demand for Big Four discussion of the crucial German arms issue as just one of the cases of present-day European tension.

Previously they had insisted on discussing it by itself and before anything else—a demand the West flatly rejected from the outset.—United Press.

STREET BRAWL INCIDENT

Belgrade, Apr. 1. The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug today accused the Hungarian Charge d'Affaires in Belgrade, Istvan Krabec, and the Aide de Camp of the Yugoslav Military attaché here, Ivan Ivanov, of starting a street brawl last night.

The news agency claimed that the Hungarian and Bulgarian Legations had for some time been deliberately interfering with Belgrade traffic so as to provoke incidents.

Belgrade Radio said tonight that the Yugoslav Government would protest to Hungary regarding the incident.

A protest was necessary because such occurrences aggravated the tense situation existing between Yugoslavia and her Cominform neighbours, the Radio said. Reuter.

YOUNG SMUGGLER SUSPECT KILLED

Lisbon, Apr. 1. Spanish civil guards killed a 16-year-old Portuguese, Amanio Teneiro, who was suspected of smuggling, as he was crossing the Portuguese-Spanish frontier near Ciudad Rodrigo, according to press reports received here today.

The guard seriously wounded Teneiro's 16-year-old brother and severely wounded another brother, 13.

HOUSE COLLAPS DISASTER

Indore, Central India, Apr. 1. Thirty-eight women and four children were killed and 50 people were injured when a three-storey house collapsed here today.

The top floor of the building, where 100 women were holding a prayer meeting, gave way and brought down the other floors, eyewitnesses said. A hundred more people inside the building escaped by rushing to surrounding balconies. Police and rescue workers had tonight recovered all the bodies of the victims.—Reuter.

Strike In Iran Spreading

Teheran, Apr. 1. The crippling strike in Iran's rich oil-producing region has spread to office workers and a spokesman for the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company said today that nearly 12,000 employees were idle.

At the same time deputies were gathering here for an extraordinary session of the Majlis, summoned for Monday to approve the recent imposition of martial law to which the powerful opposition party, the National front, is violently opposed.

The strikes spread as Soviet-Iranian relations deteriorated. The man in the street wondered what would happen next in this strife-torn land where the proposal to nationalise the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, in which the British Government, a chief stockholder, already has caused a series of assassinations.

THOUSANDS IDLE

The spokesman for the oil company said the strike in Agha Jari had spread to the Iranian clerical staff but the situation was unchanged in Bandar Manshur and Lali. He said 500 Masjid strikers and Abadeh apprentices had returned to work but thousands were stated to be idle.

A government source said 16 members of the fanatical group, two of whose members are accused of assassinating the Prime Minister, General Razmara, and the Education Minister had been arrested since the imposition of martial law in Teheran after General Razmara's death. Reports indicated about 30 more probably would be arrested in the capital and strike areas.

Following the serious wounding of Xahya Bahati, it was said the Provincial Governor General would press for martial law. Considerable unrest also was reported in Isfahan but it was considered unlikely government officials in Teheran would approve such a step.—United Press.

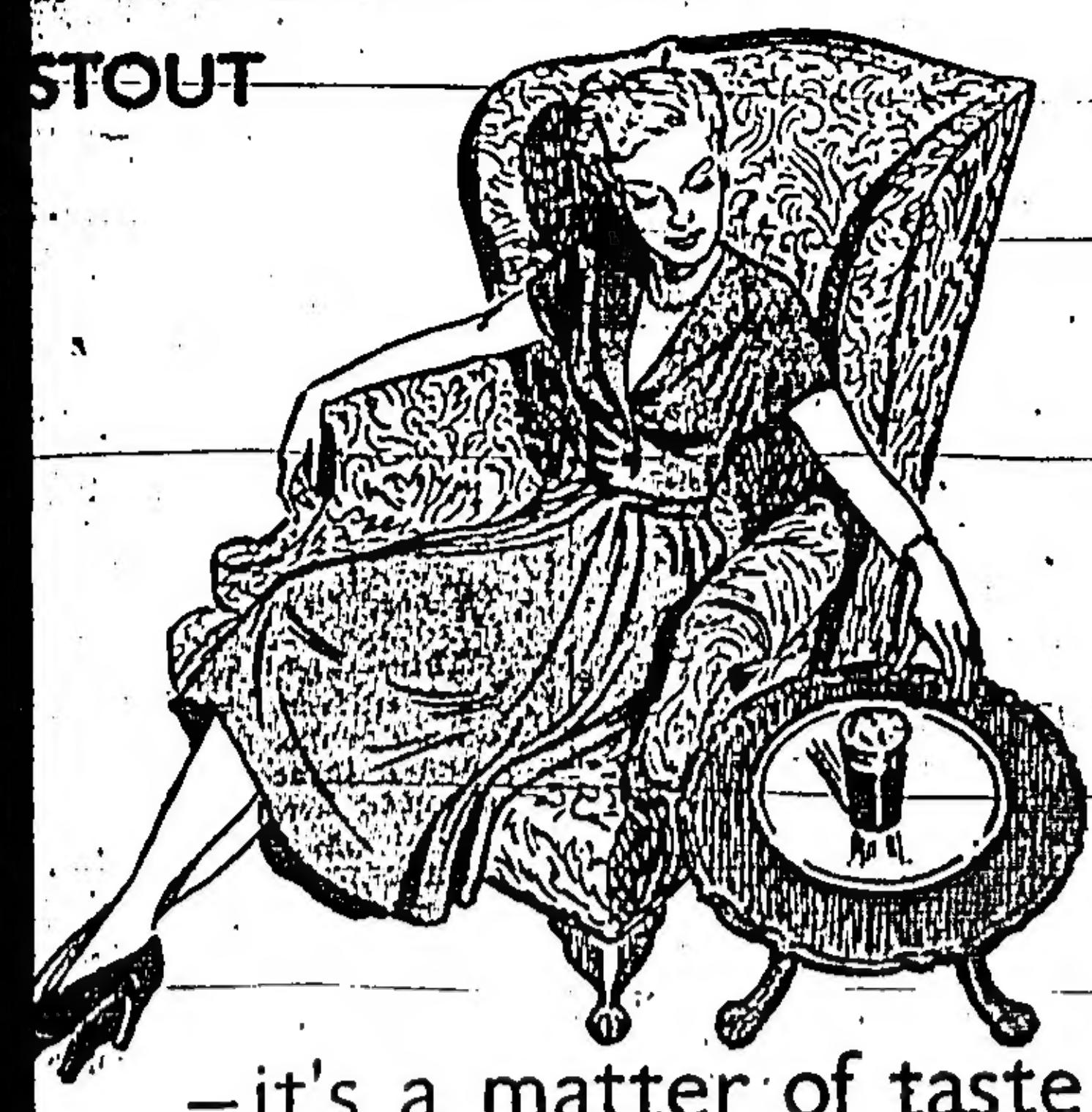
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"THE ELUSIVE PIMPERNEL"

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written, produced and directed by
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IN COLOUR BY TECHNICOLOR

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PARKS · HALE
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• TO-MORROW •
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Morning Post, South China
Post-Herald, China
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staff. Photographers
can view in the
Morning Post Building.

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At 12.00 Noon, 1.15, 2.30,
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REGULAR PERFORMANCES

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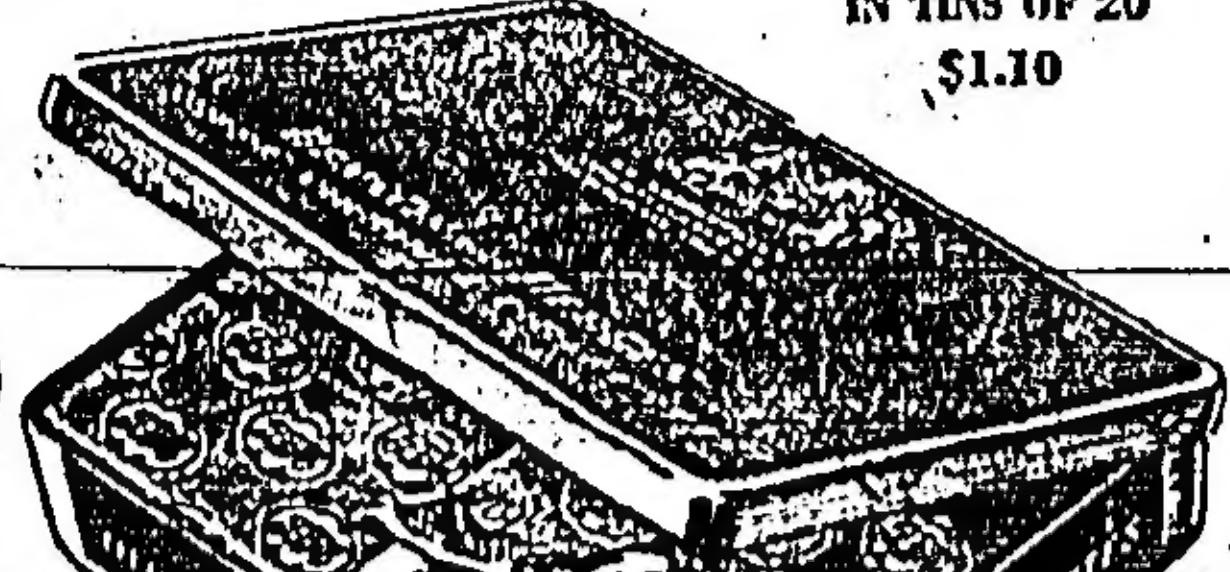
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Music by the "Bill and Coo" Band

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It is a well known fact that the best Virginia cigarettes are made in London but, fortunately, they do not all stay there! The famous Benson & Hedges red tin is a familiar sight in almost every country of the world. You will find these cigarettes in the hands of particular smokers who prefer to pay just a little more to make quite sure of having the absolute best for all those occasions when only the best will do.

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Daily Lunch \$3.80 and \$5.00

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DANCE MUSIC BY
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Special Dinner and A la Carte, Foreign and Chinese Dishes, Beer, Whiskies, Wine and Liqueurs.

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Women's Auxiliary.

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8.30 A.M. — 5.30 P.M.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE,
STATUE SQUARE

(opposite Hongkong & Shanghai Bank)

Gifts for the Sale will be welcomed.
Telephone 28663 or 30244
and they will be collected.

FREDERICK COOK asks . . .

DOES REARMAMENT IMPERIL POINT 4?

NEW YORK. What happens now to Point Four? With a fast-rearming America the number should be doubled every other week — adding rows of noughts to all prior conceptions of defence spending — what are the chances for the great Truman project to develop the world's backward regions with infusions of American dollars and technical help?

"Pretty good," think the men who run Point Four.

They take the view that the worse the world situation becomes the greater the need for Point Four. They believe that it is a hundred times more necessary now. Few here are inclined to quarrel with them in this.

But an impressive amount of opposition is building up, based in the fear that even rich and industrially-powerful America can over-reach herself.

In both houses of Congress, voices are now heard in favour of deep cuts into

non-military expenditures. The administrators of Point Four know that for them the testing time will come in April, when Congress debates the money they want to spend. A hard fight is expected in the Foreign Affairs and Foreign Relations Committees of both houses, before the Appropriations Committees are again on the House and Senate floor.

Meantime Point Four is going ahead on the assumption that one way or another it will get the "green light."

Defining the fourth of these, Mr Truman said:

"We must embark on a bold new programme for making the benefits of our scientific advances and industrial progress available for the improvement and growth of under-developed areas . . . I believe that we should make available to peace-loving peoples the benefits of our store of technical knowledge in order to help them realise their aspirations for a better life . . . and in co-operation with other nations" and that this is how the preferred assistance works out. Only a proportion of the bill is finally borne by the American taxpayer.

The Point Four people wish it to be remembered that what they are about is co-operation, not charity. And they think that from America's point of view she is getting bargain value for her dollars.

Experience with the Point Four Programme is teaching the American administrator — a man genuinely anxious to do good in the world — a great deal about the difficulties and responsibilities of his relations with other people.

A major lesson has already been learned by the administrators of Point Four in India. It is that, while they may need economic help and appreciate it, the people of other countries do not want to be Americans. They do not understand or especially admire the American way of life. They want such help as is forthcoming fitted in with their own scheme of things, which they developed over centuries and see no reason to change in fundamentals.

Point Four is run by an office of the State Department known as the "Technical Co-operation Administration," with Dr Bennett as its head. But officials of E.C.A. — the "Marshall Plan" — have a large hand too in the operation of extending U.S. aid to the less advanced parts of the earth.

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U.S. embassy in the country concerned, working with officials of the requesting Government. Secondly, it is forwarded to Washington with the "evaluation" of the embassy.

In the third phase, it is sent up to the Administrator and by any other U.S. Government department involved. Then it is fitted in with what is known of United Nations or other international projects for the region concerned.

The project set afoot by Horace Holmes (a former State agricultural official in North Carolina where the summers are little less oppressive than India's) is now being rapidly expanded. Several more U.S. technicians are preparing to leave for the United Provinces to join him.

The programme launched around Mahewa is only one of five already formally approved for India. Others are now in the final discussion stage in New Delhi.

High hopes are held in Washington for the Point Four agreement signed last month in Delhi by the American Ambassador, Mr Loy Henderson, and India's Foreign Minister, Sir Girja Bajpal.

In Burma

"The agreement," said Dr H. G. Bennett, head of Point Four, "creates a magnificent opportunity for two great nations to work together for their mutual progress and well-being. It is the most realistic and practical way of bringing out two peoples together in growing understanding and respect".

For the people of Burma, however, Point Four may yet prove a somewhat mixed blessing. Said a spokesman for the Point Four headquarters in Washington recently: "If the Burmese want a sewerage system for Rangoon, we will show them how to build it. And we will also show them how to set up a tax system so that they can collect, and how to ensure that the money collected reaches the Government". But American drains and efficient tax-collecting may not appeal to everyone in Burma.

Burma is fast developing into one of the busiest scenes of American postwar activity in Asia. The Marshall Plan has allocated \$1,750,000 for the purchase of cotton thread and a further \$81,000 for antibiotics such as penicillin. Point Four has sent or is sending soon a port engineer to assist in the repair of Rangoon Harbour; a medical specialist; two experts in malaria control and prevention; three top sanitation engineers; and four entomologists to work on insect extermination.

Burma has also made formal application for the aid of American housing experts to help solve the overcrowding problem in Rangoon.

Tin Output

The total aid-to-Burma programme will amount to between \$8,000,000 and \$10,000,000 in the first year of Point Four.

Innumerable other programmes are being pressed forward. The largest that have long been major U.S. interests — such as a road network in Liberia, where a road network is planned and in the Philippines. Technical assistance there is contingent on "certain compromises" to be worked out with Manila, including rectification of certain taxation inequities to which Washington has objected. "But," said one Point Four man, "we are getting ready to move in there. We have a five-year programme of technical and economic aid for the restoration of Philippine industries and the introduction of new ones."

In Malaya assistance is being granted for the building of roads and "to assist the Government in its efforts to take more effective security measures". New roads would shorten distances in central Malaya by as much as 70 miles. American machinery followed. Villagers who had never seen one

desire to increase tin output.

One of the finest sights in the Mentemhet temple are the ten chapels running along the north and south walls, hemmed out of rock. Those on the north side were left unfinished; but those on the south are lavishly decorated with coloured inscriptions and reliefs covering the funerary cult of the nobleman.

FORTY TIMES

Running right along the walls of one are hieroglyphics repeating, for forty times, the names of Osiris, God of the Dead, and Ra, God of the Sun.

At the other end of the court, at either side of the exit doorway, there are two stairways sinking into the earth. One was never finished, but the other with its walls covered with hieroglyphs of the sun, leads to chambers not yet explored.

There is another court to be excavated, immense subterranean places to be penetrated — possibly during this digging season, which ends in May, when oppressive heat makes work intolerable.

The U.S. Army is developing a chain of air bases for Western defence is being constructed in Greece.

Turkey is building a strategic road network near her borders with Russia and improving 3,900 miles of road with U.S. financial aid.

Under a secret training agreement, the Polish army has invited East German police units to join its spring manoeuvres with their own tanks and artillery.

The Colonial Secretary will visit East Africa in April to study local conditions.

Chinese troops in Formosa are being armed with modern American weapons.

The Czech Chief of Political Security, Mr. J. Vesely, is under arrest in Prague.

The Czechoslovakian in Hamburgh and Dusseldorf have been rounded. One is in a Prague prison.

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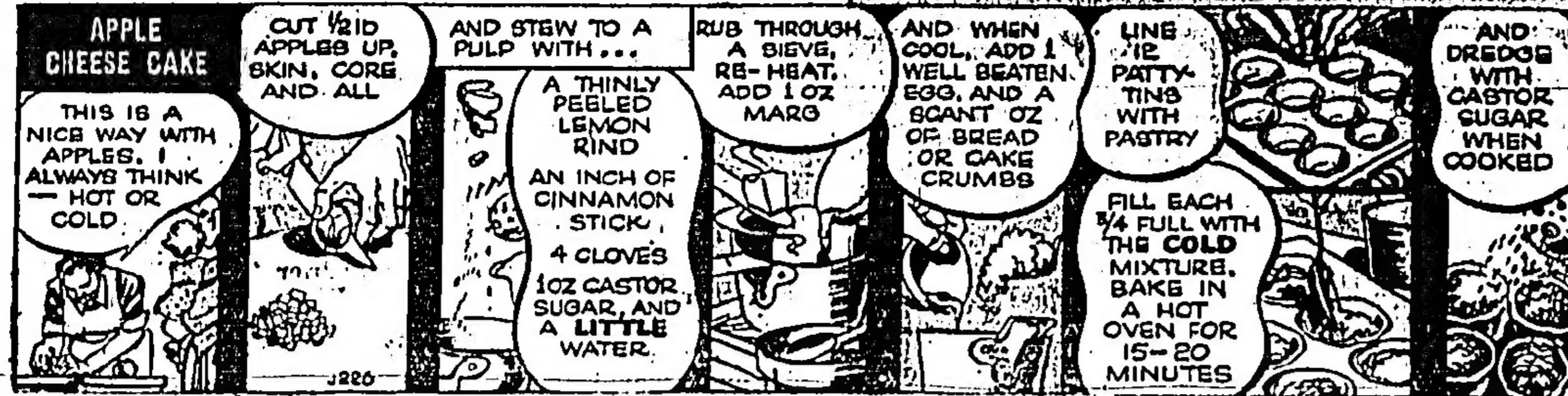
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WOMANSENSE



Quilted Satin Coolie Bed-Jacket

ARE you a person that likes an extra warmth in a bed-jacket? Then this should just suit you. It is double-breasted, has a standing collar and long sleeves.

We used 2 yds of quilted satin and lined it with rayon satin.

You need two lengths, shoulder to waist, plus 5", plus $\frac{1}{2}$ yd. of 36" quilted fabric. Also the same amount of lining fabric.

Straighten fabric. Fold in half crosswise, wrong side out, bringing selvages together. Lay with 2 selvages toward you and with fold on right-hand side.

A is lower left-hand corner. B is length shoulder to waist plus 5" from A. C is $\frac{1}{2}$ armhole plus 3" from B.

If distance from B to C is short, move B to left by amount needed for correct measurement (which will simply shorten skirt of jacket by this amount).

Line Straight Across

D is $\frac{1}{2}$ armhole plus 3" to right of A. Chalk a line straight across from D to opposite edges (E) and one straight in from B about half way across fabric.

E is $\frac{1}{2}$ bust plus 2" from D. G is $\frac{1}{2}$ bust plus 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " from B. Connect F and G. Curve underarm as shown.

H is $\frac{1}{2}$ " to right of A. I is $\frac{1}{2}$ " neck plus $\frac{1}{2}$ " in from A. Measure from neck down arm to length of sleeve desired and mark J this distance from I. K is 4" to right of J.

Chalk neck curve H-I; lines I-K, K-L. Cut out backs, cutting H-II, I-K; K-L; L through underarm curve at F to G; G-B.

From Other Selvage

Measure in $3\frac{1}{2}$ " from other selvage for M. Chalk a line straight across to N, for centre front.

Lay back over front section, G-B edge matching centre front line M-N. Cut front underarm and shoulder lines same as back. Remove back.

G is 1/6" neck plus $\frac{1}{2}$ " to left of N. F is the same amount below N.

Sleeveless Vogue

Paris. SLEEVELESS bodice tops have become important fashion news in Paris since tailored suits are all the rage.

The jumper-type of bodice is popular.

One of the knitted wear experts, Anny Blot, presents sleeveless cardigans, worked in lace stitch, and edged with ribbing.

Another attractive model is a sleeveless, waisted coat with rounded basques and a high, flared collar made of white satin brocaded in gold.

For evening wear, Jeanne Billaud has designed a strapless decolleté bodice in emerald green velvet with the neck edged with a narrow scarf of cootie fur tying in a flaring pointed knot across the front.

Yves Fauvel Lorrain mitigates the formality of his black jersey strapless bodice with a smaller and less violent form of fur.

Bootee tops, popular here, are uniformly worn completely to show the bodice, and the bodice is often a contrasting fabric, which is often a different color from the skirt.

It is a great idea to have a



He's All For It

When a man loves a woman, whether today or four centuries ago, something sets off a spark that makes him want to please her. And, whether she sits on a throne or punches a typewriter, that spark comes near to making the world tick.

Mr Merril, a recent bridegroom—he married Bettie Davis after they finished "All About Eve"—was loathe to tell all he knows about Eve.

But he admits that woman's charm is still getting her everything she wants...and he's all for it.

Top Models Of The Year

This picture by John French shows three girls who have been selected as three of this year's top-line fashion models in London.



TOP LEFT: JOAN BURGESS. CENTRE: PATRICIA GODDARD. RIGHT: AUDREY WHITE. (London Express Service)

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Purr Purr's Floor Manners

—Hand Said They Were Perfect—

By MAX TRELL

“THAT'S a nice dear, a very nice dear,” Hand, the shadow-girl with the turned-up nose, was saying to Purr. Purr, it happened that Purr was lapping her milk out of a saucer, very neatly and very cleanly, without spilling a single drop. It wasn't often that Hand knew about them, at any rate! showed such good table manners. So she complimented Purr. Purr by saying: “That's a nice dear, that's lovely—oh, I'm so proud of you, my sweet.”

Only Hand wasn't too sure that Purr really had table manners. The saucer wasn't on a table. It was on the kitchen floor. But you couldn't say, Hand thought to herself at that moment, that Purr Purr had good floor manners!

“And then there's the Blinky Mole,” continued Hand, talking to herself. “He has underground table manners; or just underground manners, like the worms and the beetles. And what about the Sunfish and the Minnows? They must have water manners. Or perhaps, Hand added quickly, “they're called Pond Manners, or Lake Manners, or Brook Manners. It's all very strange.”

Hand rose and peeked in through the kitchen door. Purr was still lapping up the milk. Hand smiled and sat down on the steps again.

“Now the birds,” Hand went on to herself, “have several different kinds of manners. Some of them have Air Manners, and some of them have Tree Manners, and some of them—like the Robin, especially—have Ground Manners, and some of them (the Cuckoo, for example) have Water Manners. They all stuck their heads out the water or the ground and do their manners.” Hand said, at last.

“She thought about the Duck and the Goose, and the Swan. They all stuck their heads out the water or the ground and do their manners.” Hand said, at last.

Rupert and the Castaway—7



The telescope is brought out and balanced on a rock and Rupert peers through it. “There was something about a mile out,” says Captain Barnacle. “It seemed to be moving towards the shore very fast, only I couldn't make out whether it was a bird or a boat. It was so small that the waves kept

hiding it.” Rupert carefully moves the telescope around so that he covers the whole stretch of water to which the old man is pointing.

“There's nothing there now except a few jellies,” he says. “I know, I'll go on a bit further along the shore and see whether anything has come ashore.”

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Week-end Softball

BRAVES CHALK UP THEIR THIRD CONSECUTIVE VICTORY IN SENIOR PLAYOFF SERIES

By "GRANDSTAND"

Braves chalked up their third consecutive victory in the current softball Senior League playoff series when they nosed out St. Joseph's 4-3 after an extra inning had to be played, while the Jaguars shutout the Canadians 5-0 with air-tight fielding.

Squaws wrested the Mamak Ladies' Junior League trophy from St. Teresa's when they shaded the former champions by 8-7 in a thrilling game punctuated by explosive outbursts on the field on every close call.

In the Midget League knockout tournament, Blackhawks blanked Delawares 3-0 behind Eduardo Ribeiro's hitless shutout, the only error of the game being an infield fumble on an unsuccessful twin-killing attempt.

52 mph Average

Marzotto Wins Round Sicily Tour

Palermo, Apr. 1. Italy's Vittorio Marzotto, driving a Ferrari, today won the 1,080-kilometre (about 660-mile) round Sicily tour, one of Europe's toughest road speed tests, in which two of Italy's ace drivers were killed early today.

Marzotto won a special prize of one million lire (2375) by covering the tricky course, of mediocre roads, at the almost incredible speed of 100.450 kilometres per hour (over 62 miles per hour).

The prize was offered to the first man to raise the previous record, established two years ago, from 88.768 kilometres per hour to over 100 kilometres per hour.

STUPENDOUS

Only 72 seconds behind Marzotto's stupendous time of 10 hrs. 45 mins. 2 secs. came the Italian speed ace, Piero Taruffi, on a Ferrari machine.

The first two cars, of 2,500-cc, are experimental models.

Stefano La Motta, one of Italy's outstanding drivers, and his relief driver, Francesco Faraco, were the victims of the fatal crash when their 1,000-cc Alfa Romeo hurtled into a house as they were leading 182 other cars in the race.

Little roadside crosses will be put up for the two drivers, adding to about a dozen others scattered round the island in memory of the drivers who have lost their lives in the 10 previous tours of Sicily.

ALLARD RETIRES

Sidney Allard, of Britain, was the most notable of the few foreign drivers challenging the Italians, but he retired near Trapani with engine trouble. It had not been a lucky race for Allard who, last year, was put out by a crash.

Prizes were awarded in many categories according to the type of car, sport or touring model, and size, from 750-cc to over 2,000-cc.

All were won by Italian drivers and cars with the exception of the 2,000-cc sports cars, which went to the Italian driver, Corse, in a Frazer Nash—Ruter.

THE DEAD

Palermo, Apr. 1. Two of Italy's ace drivers were killed today when their 1,000-Alfa Romeo crashed into a house during the round-Sicily road race.

The drivers were leading 182 cars in the famous 675-mile race.

Stefano La Motta, aged 31, one of Italy's outstanding drivers, was at the wheel as the car shot off, the road at a bend. He and his relief driver, Francesco Faraco, both Sicilians, were killed instantly.

The accident occurred at Priolo, near Syracuse. The two men were stretching their powerful car to the limit in an attempt to win a one-million lire prize for the first team to complete the tricky course, largely on second class roads, at an average speed of 60 miles an hour.—Ruter.

The Hong League was full of ups and downs as Caltex Jinxed powerfully Gibbs once more with a well-earned 8-4 triumph, while Stanvac overwhelmed Shell 16-4.

A re-shuffled Jaguar outfit outplayed the Canucks to emerge 5-0 winners with Jaguar slabster Vic Pedroza chucking a four-hitter while opposing hurler Kassa Nazarin was nicked for five blows.

The first three frames were scoreless affairs in spite of the fact that both sides had scoring chances, but brilliant fielding strangled any such attempt.

Jaguars broke loose in a scoring spree in the fourth when Steven Xavier wheeled a walk out of Kassa Nazarin and Tony Silva followed with a well-placed bunt.

Jock Brown, always a dangerous man at the plate, looked over a strike and belted the next pitch for a three-ply safety which chased over the first two runs.

Gerry Langenberg's hit in the same stanza scored Brown and the ballgame was practically over as the Maple Leafers were unable to break the string of horse-collars.

In the last of the final frame, the Canucks had a chance when the sacks were loaded with none away, but failure to produce a single hit by the next three batters nullified the attempt.

As a result of the weekend victories by the Braves and Jaguars, the race now narrows down to these two rival outfits.

The Saints still have a very slim chance but the odds are heavily against the leading Braves to drop two out of their three remaining fixtures. With three losses against the Canucks, they are practically out of the running.

Braves now enjoy a one game lead over the Jaguars as the series heads into the home stretch next week, when the Braves tangle with the Canucks and Jaguars meet St. Joseph's, whom they edged out in a nine-inning encounter in the first game of the playoffs.

Clark & Miss Hart Win Singles Finals At Monte Carlo

Monte Carlo, Apr. 1. S. Clark and Miss Doria Hart won the men's and women's singles finals respectively when the Monte Carlo international lawn tennis tournament was continued today.

Both events were all-American finals, Clark beating F. Kovaleski 1-6, 6-4, 6-4, 1-6, 10-8, and Miss Hart winning against Miss Shirley Fry 6-3, 6-3.

In the women's singles, the British pair, Miss Joy Hibbert and Miss Gern Hoahing, lost 3-6, 2-6 to the American-Australian partnership of Miss Louise Brough and Mrs. Thelma Long.

Miss Jean Queriet (Britain) had to return home and so could not play in a semi-final of one of the mixed doubles events with D. Milic (Yugoslavia) against Miss Doria Hart and Irving Dorfman (United States) who received a walk-over.

In the other semi-final Miss Rita Anderson (Britain) and Jaroslav Drobny (Egypt) retired at set all against Miss Shirley Fry and Felicimo Ampon (Philippines) who were adjudged the winners with the score 2-6, 6-4.

In the final Miss Hart and Dorfman beat Miss Fry and Ampon 2-6, 6-4, 6-2.—Reuter.

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"SHANSI"	Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	10 a.m.	4th Apr.
"POYANG"	Tientsin	10 a.m.	9th Apr.*
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m.	9th Apr.*
"HANYANG"	Tsingtao & Tientsin	10 a.m.	10th Apr.
"SINKIANG"	Djakarta	5 p.m.	12th Apr.
"KWEIYANG"	Singapore, Penang & Belawan	5 p.m.	14th Apr.
"SZECHUEN"	Bangkok	5 p.m.	18th Apr.
	Sails from Custodian Wharf		

ARRIVALS FROM

"SHENGKING"	Keelung	7 a.m.	2nd Apr.
"POYANG"	Tientsin & Tsingtao	5th Apr.	
"SOOCHOW"	Kobe	5th Apr.	
"KWEIYANG"	Bangkok	6th Apr.	
"YOCHOW"	Sourabaya	7th Apr.	
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"ANKING"	Moji	11th Apr.	

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"TAIYUAN"	Sydney & Ports	24th Apr.	
"CHANGSHA"	Australia	1st week May	
"TAIYUAN"	Japan	19th May	

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"PATROCLUS"	Marseilles Liverpool & Glasgow	8th Apr.	
"AUTOMEDON"	Liverpool & Glasgow	10th Apr.	
"AENEAS"	Casablanca, Dublin & Liverpool	25th Apr.	
"MYRMIDON"	Genoa, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg	29th Apr.	

Scheduled Sailings from Europe			
S. "AENEAS"	Sails Liverpool	Sails Rotterdam	Arrives Hong Kong
S. "MYRMIDON"	24th Feb.	—	5th Apr.
"AUTOMEDON"	7th Mar.	—	13th Apr.
"PROMETHEUS"	4th Mar.	—	13th Apr.
G. "PERSEUS"	Sailed	—	16th Apr.
S. "BELLEROPHON"	18th Mar.	—	20th Apr.
S. "MARON"	21st Mar.	—	4th May
S. "ANTILochus"	28th Mar.	—	9th May
G. "PYRRHUS"	4th Apr.	—	20th May

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"BENALBANACH"	— do —	10th May
"BENVENUE"	— do —	23rd May
"BENLAWERS"	— do —	

SAILINGS Loading on or abt.

"BENALDER"	Liverpool, Glasgow & Antwerp.	12th Apr.
"BENVENUE"	Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin & Rotterdam.	14th May
"BENMACDHUI"	London, Antwerp & Rotterdam.	21st May
"BENLAWERS"	London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hull.	25th Apr.

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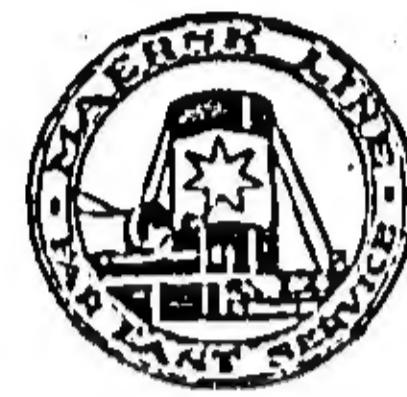
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Britain's Gold Reserves Up

London, Apr. 1. Britain has almost trebled her precious gold dollar reserves since she devalued the Pound 18 months ago, informed sources say.

The country, still riding on the crest of world re-armament demands, has swelled its reserves by around \$300,000,000 in the past three months.

A Treasury statement announcing that reserves have shot to more than \$3,000,000,000 in the quarter ending Saturday, March 31, is expected soon.—Associated Press.

Tin Talks Breakdown
Not A Good Omen For
Other Conferences

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Apr. 1. The conference that has been meeting in Washington discussing an allocation scheme for tin seems to have ended in the same way as the recent rubber conference in London—that is, in agreement to disagree.

The tin conference has not officially broken down but merely broken up. Whether an agreement will eventually be possible depends on the producers and consumers—mainly American consumers—agreeing on what is a "fair" price for the commodity.

Failure of the tin conference is hardly surprising. The position of the Americans is now the reverse of that which they adopted at last year's international tin conference in Geneva.

Now they are very keen advocates of an international allocation scheme but at Geneva it was the producers who wanted international control and were prepared to go a long way to arrange price limits. At that time it was the Americans who objected to minimum prices.

The reversal of the American attitude alone might have de-

troyed the chances of America getting her way. But a Senate sub-committee report a few days before the conference opened made prospects even worse.

The Senators accused the Malayan producers of "gouging" the American taxpayer by asking current prices.

The producers are in fact well aware of the dangers of the present situation. The price of tin is now high because of the abnormal demand. Part of this demand is from American stockpiling but there is also a high civilian demand and many countries are looking for chances to buy tin. There are technical difficulties in finding a fair price for the commodity, which costs three times as much to produce in Bolivia as it does in Malaya. But, apart from that, the producers feel justified in seeking an agreement that gives them guarantees if they return to a lower price level now.

They do not want to suffer when the United States stockpile is complete or the international tension subsides and the commodity heads for a slump. The United States has not given these assurances.

The failure of the tin conference is not a good omen for other commodity talks in Washington. The United States wants sterling supplies of wool at moderated prices. Conversely there are commodities such as sulphur which America holds and seems unlikely to release to the world unless a better job is made of international co-operation. Mutualy advantageous settlements will probably need some higher level negotiating before they can be put through. Mr Attlee's talk with President Truman temporarily eased Britain's supply problems but another initiative will be needed to override the United States commercial interests blocking the present negotiations.

With the extension of Communist power throughout the Chinese mainland and the maintenance of a stable currency all over the country for more than a year, the retention of separate currencies would impede the flow of goods in informal trade. People will begin exchanging their old currency today at the rate of 8.5 local dollars for one People's dollar.

In North-East China the exchange will be completed by June 1 and in remote Inner Mongolia by the end of July. Reuter.

STOCK EXCHANGE

Gilt-edged prices staged a post-Easter rally this week, and the four per cent line, which was breached last week, has recrossed again. Gilt-edged stocks made daily gains and even the Northern Rhodesia loan, which had started the decline, rallied to only one discount.

But observers do not take an optimistic view at present. It only needs another large issue to start a fresh decline.

Equities have remained firm despite the nearness of the Budget, which is now not expected to be too bad at all.

United Sun Betong (acknowledged leader of the rubber group) announced a dividend of 50 per cent against last year's 17½ per cent. Even this was not enough to satisfy the most optimistic investors but the significance of the company's dividend is that it is based on profits made in selling rubber at last year's average prices which were about half the present price.

Markets and copper shares have had a good week—though some of the best prices have not been held.

Sharp Declines In Cotton Futures

New York, Mar. 31. The impact of the increasingly favourable crop news, along with the Korean peace talks and the weakening prices for light weight fabrics in the drygoods market, pushed cotton futures sharply lower this week.

At Friday's close, May contract held unchanged at the ceiling price of 45.39 cents a pound, but other deliveries were off 47 to 88 cents or \$2.25 to \$4.30 a bale. Old crop July delivery moved off the ceiling price for the first time since it reached the top limit on March 19.

Statisticians estimated the Government's loan rate for new crop, on a basis of the latest parity report around 31.53 cents a pound for middling 16-18 inch cotton. Actually the loan rate will be based on the Mid-July parity price. The average loan rate for this season's crop is 29.45 cents a pound.

The International Cotton Advisory Committee reported that the world consumption of new cotton is still at an improved rate of over 22,000,000 bales annually. This would greatly exceed the world's production of 21,000,000 bales.

The I.C.A.C. indicated that new cotton consumption can be maintained at that present rate of 22,000,000 bales a year.

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Assurances Given To France No More Bilateral Discussions

Washington, Apr. 1. Authoritative sources said tonight that President Auriol of France had been given assurances during his visit here that France would be fully consulted by the United States on every matter affecting the security of all countries within the French Union. They said this meant France would participate in any future discussions dealing with defense and there would be no further bilateral discussions on this subject between the United States and Great Britain as recently at Malta.

Furthermore, the sources said, this assurance was expected to result in greater French responsibility in the planning of defense strategy of the Mediterranean than had been originally planned. It was pointed out in this connection that France should provide a strategic air force of her own based on the North African bases but this was not expected to be possible for at least two years.

In the meantime, the French government is expressing here as anxious to be training technical personnel for this purpose with US aid and would like to have close liaison with strategic air force policy on the North African air bases.

M. Auriol's visit here is believed to have resulted also in the expectation that France will be more frequently consulted on Far Eastern policy in view of her interests in Indo-China. Sources add that the US Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson, was understood to have assured the French Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman, that France would be fully consulted on all matters concerning the Eastern Mediterranean, including the desire of Turkey and Greece to join the Atlantic Pact.—United Press.

VIETMINH REPULSED

(Continued from Page 1)

number of dead on the ground," the communiqué said.

According to French reconnaissance reports, "important Vietminh armaments" were destroyed.

Fighters and bombers last night attacked Vietminh concentrations of at least two regiments while they were regrouping north-east of Ongtrieu and completely dispersed them, the communiqué added.

Earlier today Vietminh troops were reported to have launched a new attack last night with mortars and machine-guns on Maokhe Fort, which guards the north-eastern tip of the French-held Red River bridge-head.

Only light, spasmodic contact was being maintained to-day.

The attack on the fort, made by Vietminh troops who raced down from the rugged, cloud-clad Ongtrieu mountains, was weaker than the earlier one reported in the communiqué. The fighting ended before midnight.

Elsewhere along the 100-mile northern delta front, last night was calm, French sources said. But French patrols met Vietminh machine-gun fire while probing from the stronghold of Seven Pagodas, 15 miles west of Maokhe, into the foothills of the Western range of the Ongtrieu.—Reuters.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. 9.30 "Programme Summary"; 9.42 "Children's Quiz" conducted by Yvonne Charter and Anthony Catcher (Studio); 9.50 Portuguese Hall (Hour); 7.00 "The Man From Mars" (London Relay); 9.10 "Weather Report" (London Relay); 7.15 United Nations Album; 7.20 Symphony of Strings—Geraldo and His String Choir (BBCTS); 7.30 "The Man From Mars" (London Relay); 8.15 "Visions Of The Future" No. 1, "The Men From Mars"; A Talk by Stephen Potter (BBCTS); 8.30 "A Life In The Country" (London Relay); 8.45 "British Folklore" (Studio); 9.00 "The Editorial" (London Relay); 9.10 "Weather Report"; 9.11 "Tina" (BBCTS); 9.42 "Concerto"; 9.45 "Chanson" (French Hall); 9.50 "The Man From Mars" (London Relay); 11.00 "Visions Of The Future" No. 1, "The Men From Mars"; A Talk by Stephen Potter (BBCTS); 8.30 "A Life In The Country" (London Relay); 8.45 "British Folklore" (Studio); 9.00 "The Editorial" (London Relay); 9.10 "Weather Report"; 9.11 "Tina" (BBCTS); 9.42 "Concerto"; 9.45 "Chanson" (French Hall); 9.50 "The Man From Mars" (London Relay); 11.00 "Radio News Real" (London Relay); 11.15 "Goodnight Moon"; 11.20 "Weather Report"; 11.30 "The King"; 11.45 "Close Down".

STORE MANAGER CHARGED

The manager of the Peninsula Store, 7 Hankow Road, came before Mr Winter at Kowloon this morning charged with failing to keep books to the satisfaction of the Director of Commerce and Industry on March 1.

Defendant, Tsui Wai, 48, was formally remanded until April 4 on bail of \$1,000.

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PERCY FRANKLIN for
"My husband is an advertising man—why not turn your
saying club membership drive over to him?"

PRINCESS GOES TO A DINNER PARTY



Smiling Princess Elizabeth and her lady-in-waiting drive away after a private dinner party which they attended recently at the Savoy Hotel.—London Express Service.

PI Clean-Up On Chinese

Marina, Apr. 2.

Philippine Immigration and Army authorities are checking up on the entry of an estimated 70,000 Chinese in the Philippines who came in on the strength of fake certificates showing they were pre-war residents here unable to return as a result of the outbreak of the Pacific war, it was learned today.

The authorities believed many of them have never been in the Philippines. It was understood such aliens would be deported either to Hongkong or Formosa. The mass check-up opened after immigration agents discovered at least nine cases in which aliens were cleared by the Philippine Consulate in Hongkong as returning residents. Clearance had been made on the strength of 1941 residence certificates, cancelled steamship tickets and claims of applicants that they were unable to return to the Philippines when war broke out.

United Press.

Alleged Assault On Staircase

An alleged incident on a staircase led to the appearance of a 23-year-old unemployed before the Senior Puisne Judge, Mr Justice Gould, in the Criminal Sessions, this morning on an indictment of assault with intent to rob.

The accused, Lee Kam-ping, being armed with an offensive weapon, is alleged to have assaulted Yu Sau-king, a married woman, on the staircase of No. 22 Yuen Chow Street, Kowloon, on the night of January 12 last.

Mr J. Reynolds, Crown Counsel, is conducting the case for the Prosecution. Accused is not legally represented.

A Jury of six men and a woman has been empanelled.

The Prosecutor said that about 8.45 p.m. on January 12 last, complainant was returning to her home on the third floor of No. 22 Yuen Chow Street, with a parcel under her arm.

On her way up the stairs she heard footsteps behind her. She stood aside to allow the person to pass. That person, the Prosecutor alleged, was the accused who, after passing the complainant, struck her on the eye, causing her to drop the parcel. Complainant turned to run and fell down the stairs. Accused, however, ran towards the roof.

About this time, a neighbour, Su Cheung, was returning home and saw the complainant rolling down the stairs. As a result of what was told him, said the Prosecutor, Su ran up the stairs and on to the roof where he found accused. He brought him down and later took him to the Police Station.

Mr Reynolds said that accused, in answer to the present

charge, made a statement to the Police. The statement, he added, would be tendered in evidence.

The trial is proceeding.

Watch Robbery Trial Opens

The new Chief Justice, Sir Gerard Howe, sat in his first criminal case at the Supreme Court this morning when Cheung Ching stood trial, before a jury of three women and four men, on a charge of robbery with aggravation.

Cheung is accused of robbing the Hope Bros Watch shop at 261 Des Voeux Road of three Omega and a Rolex wrist watch.

According to Mr M. Heenan, Crown Counsel, on the evening of December 11 last year a Chinese entered the shop and asked to be shown the watches which were placed on the counter for his inspection. As an assistant was about to replace them in the showcase, the man produced a pistol and told him not to move. He then collected all four watches and left quickly.

Accused was arrested on January 17 and was identified at a parade the following day by one of the salesmen, but not by the man who had served him. On January 19 he was identified by another salesman. The watches were not recovered and no arms were found. The case is proceeding.

Disorderly Conduct: Fined \$16

Two privates from the Royal Leicestershire Regiment were fined \$16 by Mr Winter at Kowloon this morning for disorderly conduct.

The defendants, Stanley Williamson and George Ernest Davis, were accused of behaving in a disorderly manner outside a public house in Hankow Road yesterday morning.

The case is proceeding.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



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"My husband is an advertising man—why not turn your
saying club membership drive over to him?"

H.K. LAND INVESTMENT CO. SHAREHOLDER CRITICAL Urge Increase In Dividend Payments Out Of Larger Profits

At the Annual General Meeting of The Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited, this morning Mr J. H. Seth objected to the method of financing capital expenditure out of revenue.

Mr Seth said that out of the increased profits of \$1,200,000 made all the shareholders received was a further \$120,000 or 10 percent.

"I submit that the reserve for depreciation is excessive," said Mr Seth.

"It seems to me that the Directors could have declared a dividend of \$4.80 less tax and transferred to reserve nine lakhs and adjusted for last year in relation to current building costs.

"It is all very well to talk of posterity but we expect something out of the earnings and in my opinion the erection of Edinburgh House and rushing into the erection of Alexandra Building was premature as we were getting a reasonable return from the Alexandra Building," he said.

"I think that we could have waited another year."

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH

The Chairman (the Hon. D. F. Landale) said: Before proceeding with the business of the Meeting I must refer with regret to the death of Mr S. T. Williamson, which occurred in September last. Mr Williamson had served as a Director of your Company since 1934 and I take this opportunity to express our appreciation of the valuable services he rendered to the Company and our deep sympathy with his family.

Since our last Annual Meeting further progress has been made in the redevelopment of the Alexandra Building site. In spite of the rather difficult supply position, contracts have been placed for all the essential items of building material which need to be imported, and no delay in completion on this score is expected. If all goes according to plan we shall see the new building ready for occupation very nearly so—by about this time next year.

Applications for premises in your buildings continue to accumulate. By the time the new building is ready some of these applicants will of course have found space elsewhere but we do not anticipate difficulty in letting the premises at rentals which will yield a fair and reasonable return on this investment.

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY

As I mentioned last year, your Company has a special responsibility, as the holder of a substantial portion of the property in the central business area, to proceed with further redevelopment to meet the requirements of the business and professional community in this area.

In so confined a business

centre, and with so great a demand for all available accommodation, it has been no easy matter to carry out a progressive rebuilding programme, but the first and most difficult steps

have now been taken, and your Company will henceforth be in

a rather better position to fol-

low through with the re-

development of your older and less productive properties, building by building, as the de-

mand for premises in the area and the general situation allow.

Before turning to the Ac-

counts I propose to deal rather

more broadly with some aspects

of your Company's affairs over

the past five years and to draw

some conclusions which have a

bearing on your Directors' re-

commendations for the year

1950.

The effect of rent control on

your properties over the five

years 1948 to 1950 can perhaps

be better appreciated when I

tell you that if your Directors

had been allowed to readjust

rentals during this period in

rough proportion to the increase

in operating and building re-

placement costs, the additional

revenue from your buildings up

to the end of 1950 would have

amounted to nearly \$13,000,000.

This can be taken as a measure

of the subsidy which you have

been required to contribute

to the profits of those

of your business and profes-

sional tenants who are paying

controlled rents. Ironically, most

of these tenants have during

these five years enjoyed unpre-

cedented prosperity. Many of

them would have been glad to

accept a reasonable adjustment,

but as business men they very

naturally accept the bounty

which the law allows.

With the continued shortage

of floor space it is perhaps too

early to expect the complete

rent control over commercial

premises, but it seems fair that

the landlord of such premises

should be permitted to adjust

his charges so as to allow a

reasonable return, incidentally

encouraging thereby those

people with sufficient faith in

the future of the Colony to

support and finance the kind of

enterprise in which your Com-

pany is engaged.

INCREASED PROFIT